

Amendment to the Specification

Paragraph 33:

Collar 6 is cylindrical in shape and has a proximal portion or end 58 and a distal portion or end 60. There are formed at the inner surface at proximal portion 58 of collar 6 a plurality of protrusions 62 which are substantially rectangularly shaped. Protrusions 62 each may have a chamfered surface 64 that faces needle hub 4, as shown in the alignment of the components illustration of Fig. 1. Moreover, protrusion 62 are dimensioned such that when collar 6 is press-fitted to needle hub 4, they will matingly fit to space 52 defined by flanges 54 and end wall 30 at the distal portion of needle hub 4. The respective dimensions of space 52 and protrusions 62 may be such that, although collar 6 is rotatable about base portion 26 of needle hub 4, there nonetheless is enough friction between either one of flanges 44, end wall 30 or the outer surface of needle hub base 26 and protrusions 62 to render collar 6 not freely rotatable about needle hub 4, unless a predetermined torque or force is applied either to needle protection housing 8, living hinge 10 or collar 6, to rotate collar 6 relative to needle hub 4. Voids 66 provided at proximal portion 58 of collar 6 enable proximal portion 58 to flex, or expand, when collar 6 is press-fitted to the distal portion of needle hub 4, particularly when protrusions 62 come into contact with flanges 44. The respective chamfered or beveled surfaces 46 and 64 of flanges 44 and protrusions 62, respectively, facilitate the insertion of collar 6, and more particularly protrusions 62 into space 52 of needle hub 4.